

SS SCS SB 755 -- HOUSE OF WORSHIP PROTECTION ACT

This bill establishes the House of Worship Protection Act, which specifies that a person commits the crime of disrupting a house of worship if he or she intentionally and unreasonably disturbs, interrupts, or disquiets any house of worship by using profane discourse, rude or indecent behavior, or making noise within the house or so near it as to disturb the order and solemnity of the worship services; intentionally injures, intimidates, or interferes with or attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with any person lawfully exercising the right of religious freedom in or outside of a house of worship; or seeks access to a house of worship by force, threat, or physical obstruction. Disrupting a house of worship is a class B misdemeanor for a first offense, a class A misdemeanor for a second offense, and a class D felony for a third or subsequent offense. "House of worship" means any church, synagogue, mosque, other building or structure, or public or private place used for religious worship, religious instruction, or other religious purpose.